

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A refrigerator, comprising:
a door attached to a body and which selectively opens and closes a storage chamber;
a gasket along an inside surface of the door which maintains airtightness of the storage chamber;
a first magnet in the gasket;
a second magnet inside a front of the body to face the first magnet; and
at least one shield member blocking surfaces of at least one of the first and second magnets not facing the other magnet.
2. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 1, wherein the shield member is a metallic plate surrounding surfaces of the one magnet not facing the remaining magnet.
3. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 1, wherein the shield member blocks surfaces of the second magnet.
4. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 1, wherein the shield member blocks the north pole of the one magnet.
5. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 1, wherein the front of the body is a non-magnetic substance.
6. A refrigerator having an improved magnetic seal between a refrigerator door and a refrigerator body, comprising:
the body;
the door, having a gasket along an inside surface, which moves between an open and a closed position relative to the body;
first and second magnets, within the gasket and a front of the body, respectively, which are attractive when the door is closed; and
at least one shield member blocking surfaces of at least one of the first and second magnets not facing the other magnet.

7. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 6, wherein the shield member is a metallic plate.
8. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 6, wherein at least two shield members block surfaces of the first and second magnets.
9. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 6, wherein the south pole of the first magnet faces the north pole of the second magnet.
10. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 6, wherein the north pole of the first magnet faces the south pole of the second magnet.
11. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 6, wherein the front of the body is a non-magnetic substance.
12. A refrigerator having an improved magnetic seal between a refrigerator door and a refrigerator body, comprising:
 - a body;
 - a door, having a gasket along an inside surface, and which moves between an open and a closed position relative to the body;
 - first and second magnets, within the gasket and a front of the body, which are attractive when the door is closed; and
 - at least one shield member, wherein the shield member blocks lines of magnetic force extending from at least one magnet which are substantially repulsive to the other magnet.
13. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 12, wherein the shield member is a metallic plate.
14. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 12, wherein at least two shield members block surfaces of the first and second magnets.

15. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 12, wherein the south pole of the first magnet faces the north pole of the second magnet.

16. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 12, wherein the north pole of the first magnet faces the south pole of the second magnet.

17. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 12, wherein the front of the body is a non-magnetic substance.

18. A refrigerator having a storage chamber with improved airtightness, comprising:
a refrigerator body, including the storage chamber, coupled to a cooling system;
a door to move between open and closed positions relative to the storage chamber,
respectively;

first and second magnets in the body and the door, respectively, providing an airtight seal between the body and the door; and

at least one shield member blocking surfaces of at least one of the first and second magnets which are not facing the other magnet.

19. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 18, wherein the shield member is a metallic plate.

20. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 18, wherein at least two shield members block the surfaces of the first and second magnets.

21. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 18, wherein the south pole of the first magnet faces the north pole of the second magnet.

22. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 18, wherein the north pole of the first magnet faces the south pole of the second magnet.

23. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 18, wherein the front of the body is a non-magnetic substance.

24. A refrigerator having a storage chamber with improved airtightness, comprising:
a refrigerator body, including the storage chamber, coupled to a cooling system;
a door able to occupy an open and a closed position relative to the storage chamber;
first and second magnets in the body and the door, respectively, providing an airtight seal between the body and the door; and
at least one shield member, wherein the shield member blocks lines of magnetic force extending from at least one magnet which are repulsive to the other magnet.

25. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 24, wherein the shield member is a metallic plate.

26. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 24, wherein two shield members blocks surfaces of the first and second magnets.

27. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 24, wherein the south pole of the first magnet faces the north pole of the second magnet.

28. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 24, wherein the north pole of the first magnet faces the south pole of the second magnet.

29. The refrigerator as set forth in claim 24, wherein the front of the body is a non-magnetic substance.